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NID 81

March 04, 1981

SITUATION REPORTS

POLAND

Warsaw Pact forces are preparing to conduct a major joint forces exercise called Soyuz-81 which will probably begin in the next two weeks.

The exercise apparently will be considerably larger than early information indicated and could involve substantial movement of combat forces.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The Soviets could use exercise activity for introducing additional military forces into Poland. At the very least, holding such a large exercise in and around Poland at this time will serve as an additional warning to the Poles to put their house in order.

[REDACTED]

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Political Situation

Polish party and government leaders Kania and Jaruzelski returned to Moscow yesterday to attend the closing session of the Soviet party congress, and Jaruzelski met with Soviet Premier Tikhonov. Soviet President Brezhnev met with Bulgarian leader Zhivkov--the fourth Warsaw Pact leader he conferred with during the congress--but there has been no announcement of a Brezhnev-Kania meeting. The two men could have met without announcing it or could meet prior to Kania's returning to Warsaw.

Jaruzelski and Tikhonov discussed a "number of questions of Soviet-Polish cooperation." The new Polish Premier repeated Kania's tactic of thanking the Soviets for the support they gave the Polish party at the congress--support that publicly at least was only lukewarm.